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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am fortunate enough to finally live in a location that allows me to connect to a local Internet service provider, Sonic. I am also fortunate enough to access its gigabit fiber network. I appreciate this particular company's commitment to net neutrality, its consistency in service, and its affordable rate. My internet experience would not be reasonable or at all convenient had I been forced to stay with a company like Comcast.

Having quality Internet service in this day and age is not a luxury - it's a NECESSITY. I don't need my Internet service to watch movies or check social media sites (although I have a right to do that as an American). I need my Internet service to email friends in other countries, apply to jobs (without worrying about my private data being breached), to complete projects at home, and TO KNOW IF MY LOVED ONES ARE SAFE IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

You have probably heard of Verizon throttling the service of Santa Clara County first responders during a brutal fire recently, and then demanding that the fire department PAY MORE MONEY to Verizon in order to avoid service being throttled in the future. This is despicable, and sadly, a classic example of telecom giants acting with greed simply because their monopoly over the market allows them to do so.

When so few ISP's are available to consumers, these telecom giants sadly cannot be trusted to act in the interest of the people. Their own profits always come first. We need more competition in the market to motivate companies to behave ethically - and not throttle service during emergencies in order to make more money. It's never good when giant companies dominate an entire market. It's bad for society, and downright terrible for democracy. America values "free market" capitalism, so we should allow companies like Sonic to build their own fiber networks and provide the Internet service citizens deserve. If the FCC does not want to regulate the country's biggest ISP's (Verizon and Comcast), then the American people should be allowed to opt out and find service elsewhere.

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